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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Application of: Timothy Hugh NORMAN

International Application No. PCT/GB2004/004438

U.S. Application No.: UNKNOWN AT THIS TIME

Filing Date: UNKNOWN AT THIS TIME

Title: UNIVERSAL MOUNTING FOR A
VEHICLE REAR VIEW MIRROR

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April 21, 2006

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22312-1450

S i r:

This Preliminary Amendment is filed concurrently with the filing of the above-identified Application. Attached hereto, starting on a separate page, are Amendments to the Claims and Remarks.

CLAIMS

1. (Original) A universal mounting for a vehicle rear view mirror adapted to fit on a mirror arm of any cross-section comprising a mirror arm engaging surface and clamping means, in which the clamping means are adapted to extend around or through a mirror arm with which the mounting is to be used, and to urge the mirror arm engaging surface against said mirror arm, and in which the mirror arm engaging surface is adapted to engage mirror arms of any cross section.
2. (Original) A universal mounting for a vehicle rear view mirror as claimed in claim 1 in which the mirror arm engaging surface comprises a first substantially rectangular shaped recess formed in the mounting, the longer side of which forms the base of the recess, and a second substantially V-shaped recess formed in said base, in which the two surfaces are angled at approximately 120 degrees to one another.
3. (Original) A universal mounting for a vehicle rear view mirror as claimed in claim 2 in which the width of the second recess is less than the width of the base, such that a flat section of the base remains on each side of the second recess.
4. (Currently Amended) A universal mounting for a vehicle rear view mirror as claimed in claim 2 ~~or claim 3~~ in which the mirror arm engaging surface is adapted to engage mirror arms with a substantially circular or multi-sided cross section with a diameter of between substantially 16mm and substantially 28mm.

5. (Original) A universal mounting for a vehicle rear view mirror as claimed in claim 4 in which the depth of the second recess is such that when a mirror arm with a substantially circular or multi-sided cross section with a diameter of substantially 28mm is engaged, the mirror arm does not contact the leading edges of the first recess.
6. (Currently Amended) A universal mounting for a vehicle rear view mirror as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ including means for securing the mounting to a rear view mirror and in which the clamping means comprise a cap, the internal dimensions of which are greater than the mounting so that the cap can be placed over the mounting and a pair of fasteners passed through the cap and into sockets provided in the mounting.
7. (Original) A universal mounting for a vehicle rear view mirror as claimed in claim 6 in which the cap is provided with a mirror arm engaging surface comprising a substantially V or U-shaped recess.
8. (Original) A universal mounting for a vehicle rear view mirror as claimed in claim 7 in which the recess in the cap is substantially 28 mm wide.
9. (Original) A universal mounting for a vehicle rear view mirror as claimed in claim 8 in which the V or U-shaped recess in the cap is provided with re-entrant cut-outs to engage the corners of polygonal cross-section arms.

10. (Original) A universal mounting for a vehicle rear view mirror as claimed in claim 9 in which the arms are of square cross-section.

11. (Currently Amended) A universal mounting for a vehicle rear view mirror as claimed in claim 1 ~~claims 1 to 6~~ which is releasably attachable to a rear view mirror and in which the clamping means comprise a central fastener which passes through an aperture provided on the mirror arm with which it is to be used and provided in the base of the mounting and through an aperture provided in the back of the rear view mirror, which it is attached by securing means.

12. (Original) A universal mounting for a vehicle rear view mirror as claimed in claim 11 in which the fastener is in the form of a bolt which is provided with a socket in its head adapted to receive the secured fastener of an outer clamping member.

13. (Original) A universal mounting for a vehicle rear view mirror as claimed in claim 12 in which the outer clamping member has a substantially flat mirror arm engaging surface and a hand grip portion.

14. (Currently Amended) A universal mounting for a vehicle rear view mirror as claimed in claim 12 ~~or claim 13~~ in which the central bolt is provided with a shaped head to allow release by a suitably shaped tool.

15. (Currently Amended) A universal mounting for a vehicle rear view mirror as claimed in claim 6 ~~any one of the preceding claims 6 to 14~~ in which the mounting is secured to the mirror with which it is to be used by a universal joint.

16. (Currently Amended) A universal mounting for a vehicle rear view mirror as set forth in Claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ in combination with a rear view mirror and/or a mirror mounting arm attached thereto.

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment amends the claims to remove multiple dependencies for fee calculation purposes only.

Should any fees be necessary in order to maintain this Application in pending condition, appropriate requests are hereby made and authorization is given to debit account # 02-2275.

Respectfully submitted,

LUCAS & MERCANTI, LLP

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donald C. Lucas". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

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